Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-38 (cancelled)

Claim 39 (new): A method for the treatment of a HCV infection in a host in need thereof comprising administering an effective treatment amount of a β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, optionally in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 40 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside has a pyrimidine base.

Claim 41 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine base is selected from the group consisting of thymine, uracil, 5-halouracil, 5-fluorouracil, cytosine, 5-fluorocytosine, 5-methylcytosine, 6-aza-pyrimidine, 6-azacytosine, 2- and/or 4-mercaptopyrmidine, C^5-alkylpyrimidine, C^5-benzylpyrimidine, C^5-halopyrimidine, C^5-vinylpyrimidine, C^5-acetylenic pyrimidine, C^5-acyl pyrimidine, C^5-hydroxyalkyl purine, C^5-amidopyrimidine, C^5-cyanopyrimidine, C^5-nitropyrimidine, and C^5-aminopyrimidine.

Claim 42 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine base is thymine.

Claim 43 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine base is uracil.

Claim 44 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine base is 5-halouracil.

Claim 45 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine base is cytosine.

Claim 46 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine base is 5-fluorocytosine.

Claim 47 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside has a purine base.

Claim 48 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the purine base is selected from the group consisting of N^6-alkylpurine, N^6-acylpurine (wherein acyl is C(O)(alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, or arylalkyl), N^6-benzylpurine, N^6-halopurine, N^6-vinylpurine, N^6-acetylenic purine, N^6-acyl purine, N^6-hydroxyalkyl purine, N^6-thioalkyl purine, N^2-alkylpurines, N^2-alkyl-6-thiopurines, N^2-alkylpurine, N^2-alkyl-6-thiopurine, 5-azacytidinyl, guanine, adenine, hypoxanthine, 2,6-diaminopurine, and 6-chloropurine.

Claim 49 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside has a triazolopyridinyl, imidazolopyridinyl, pyrrolopyrimidinyl, or pyrazolopyrimidinyl base.

Claim 50 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside is in substantially pure form.

Claim 51 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside is at least 90% by weight of the β-D-isomer.

Claim 52 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside is at least 95% by weight of the β-D-isomer.

Claim 53 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the β-D-2'-fluoronucleoside is administered in the form of a dosage unit.

Claim 54 (new): The method of claim 53, wherein the dosage unit contains 50-1000 mg of the compound.

Claim 55 (new): The method of claim 53, wherein the dosage unit is in the form of a tablet or capsule.

Claim 56 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for oral delivery.

Claim 57 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for intravenous delivery.

Claim 58 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for parenteral delivery.

Claim 59 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for intradermal delivery.

Claim 60 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for subcutaneous delivery.

Claim 61 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is suitable for topical delivery.

Claim 62 (new): The method of any one of claims 39-49, wherein the host is a human.